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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/587,334

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EXAMINER

XAVIER, ANTONIO J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

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DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/587,334	Applicant(s) KITAI, ADRIAN	
	Examiner ANTONIO XAVIER	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/26/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1 and 3-5 are objected to because they include reference characters which are not enclosed within parentheses.

Reference characters corresponding to elements recited in the detailed description of the drawings and used in conjunction with the recitation of the same element or group of elements in the claims should be enclosed within parentheses so as to avoid confusion with other numbers or characters which may appear in the claims. See MPEP § 608.01(m).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonehara et al. (U.S. Pat. No.: 5,053,765) in view of Parker et al. (U.S. Pat. No.: 6,224,216) in view of Parker et al. (U.S. Pat. No.: 6,224,216).

With respect to Claim 1, Sonehara teaches a tiled optical display, comprising:

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at least one display module 10 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29) including

i) a liquid crystal display modulator 20 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 8-10 and lines 50-55 and Col. 10, lines 9-12 teach an LCD light shutter) and a light positioned to backlight the liquid crystal display modulator (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 8-10, Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 teach various backlight sources), the backlight including at least one each of red, green and blue (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 8-10, Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 teach various RGB sources including color filters and separate light sources) with a beam of light 18 from each light source being focussed onto a pre-selected region 26, 26, 28 of the liquid crystal display modulator 20 spaced from the light emitted by the other light sources (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, line 50-Col. 5, line , Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 teach various backlight sources create preselected RGB regions), each pre-selected region of the liquid crystal display modulator 20 including an array of optical modulation elements 30 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 8-10, Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 teach various combinations of optical fiber and light sources, including an array of optical fibers for individual RGB light sources) such that light from each beam of light 18 passes through one set of corresponding optical modulation elements 30 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 8-10, Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28), control means connected to each individual modulation element of each set of optical modulation elements 30 for controlling a desired amount of light from each beam 18 to pass through each individual optical modulation element 30 of the liquid crystal

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modulator 20 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 8-10, Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28); and

ii) a planar view plane 40 having a pre-selected number of pixels 42 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, line 10), each individual optical modulation element 30 having a first end of an optical light guide 34 optically coupled thereto (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 11-55), and a second end of one optical light guide 34 from each pre-selected region 24, 26, 28 of the liquid crystal display modulator 20 being optically coupled to one of the pre-selected number of pixels 42 so each pixel is optically coupled to a red, green and blue light source 12, 14, 16 mediated by the liquid crystal display modulator 20 (Figs. 1-4, 10-11 and 29, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 11-55 and Col. 5, lines 1-28, Col. 9, lines 8-35 and Col. 18, lines 16-28).

However, Sonehara fails to expressly teach an array of light emitting diodes positioned to backlight the liquid crystal display modulator, the array of light emitting diodes including at least one each of red, green and blue wavelength emitting light emitting diodes with a beam of light from each light emitting diode being focussed onto a pre-selected region of the liquid crystal display modulator spaced from the light emitted by the other light emitting diodes, and a planar view plane having a second end of one optical light guide of the liquid crystal display modulator being optically coupled to one of the pre-selected number of pixels so each pixel is optically coupled to a red, green and blue light emitting diode mediated by the liquid crystal display modulator (emphasis added).

Parker teaches the use of RGB LEDs as a light source for an LCD (Figs. 2-3 and 8-9, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 2-3, Col. 5, lines 8-15, Col. 6, lines 12-15 and Col. 7, line 46-Col. 8, line 56). Specifically, Parker teaches an array of light emitting diodes positioned to backlight the liquid crystal display modulator (Figs. 2-3 and 8-9, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 2-3, Col. 5, lines 8-15, Col. 6, lines 12-15 and Col. 7, line 46-Col. 8, line 56), the array of light emitting diodes including at least one each of red, green and blue wavelength emitting light emitting diodes (Figs. 2-3 and 8-9, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 2-3, Col. 5, lines 8-15, Col. 6, lines 12-15 and Col. 7, line 46-Col. 8, line 56) with a beam of light from each light emitting diode being focussed onto a pre-selected region of the liquid crystal display modulator (Figs. 2-3 and 8-9, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 2-3, Col. 5, lines 8-15, Col. 6, lines 12-15 and Col. 7, line 46-Col. 8, line 56) spaced from the light emitted by the other light emitting diodes (Figs. 2-3 and 8-9, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 2-3, Col. 5, lines 8-15, Col. 6, lines 12-15 and Col. 7, line 46-Col. 8, line 56). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the light source of Sonehara with an RGB LED light source as taught by Parker to obtain an improved display device including, but not limited to improved color and motion display.

In the interest of compact prosecution, Examiner further notes that at the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to arrange multiple LED arrays for each individual color or a single array with various colored LEDs arranged by row, column or other groupings because Applicant has not disclosed that a single backlight array including red, green and blue LEDs provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a

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stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with multiple LED arrays for an individual color or a single array with various colored LEDs arranged by row, column or other groupings because both configurations provide a light source as needed by an LCD. Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to change the configuration of the light source of Sonehara in view of Parker to include a single array with various colored LEDs.

With respect to Claim 2, Sonehara in view of Parker teaches the tiled optical display according to Claim 1, discussed above, wherein said optical light guides are optical fibers (Sonehara, Abstract and Col. 4, lines 18-20).

With respect to Claim 3, Sonehara in view of Parker teaches the tiled optical display according to Claim 1, discussed above. However, Sonehara and Parker fail to expressly teach wherein the at least one display module 10 is a plurality of display modules, the planar view plane 40 of each display module 10 being tiled together with a planar view plane of at least one other display module 10 (emphasis added).

Examiner takes official notice that tiled displays and modular displays are well known in the art. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the display of Sonehara in view of Parker to include a plurality of display modules tiled together. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that tiling a plurality of the display device taught by Sonehara in view of Parker would have yielded predictable results and resulted in an improved system.

With respect to Claim 4, Sonehara in view of Parker teaches the tiled optical display according to Claim 1, discussed above, wherein each pre-selected region 24, 26, 28 of the liquid crystal display modulator 20 having a beam of light 18 from a light emitting diode 12, 14, 16 focussed thereon includes a pre-selected number of optical fibers having their first ends optically coupled thereto (Sonehara, Fig. 29 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 and Parker, Fig. 9 and Col. 8, lines 13-23 teach multiple optical fibers connected to a pre-selected color region), the first ends of the plurality of optical fibers being arranged symmetrically with respect to the beam of light focussed onto the pre-selected region of the liquid crystal display modulator 20 (Sonehara, Fig. 29 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 and Parker, Fig. 9 and Col. 8, lines 13-23) so that light transmitted by each optical fiber has substantially the same intensity (Sonehara, Col. 9, lines 8-20 teaches prevention of non-uniformity of illumination. Parker, Col. 7, line 47-Col. 8, line 56 teaches calibrating the intensity of light for the fiber bundles), and wherein the second end of a given optical fiber of the pre-selected number of optical fibers is optically coupled to a different pixel than to which the second ends of the rest of the pre-selected number of optical fibers are optically coupled (Sonehara, Fig. 29 and Col. 18, lines 16-28 and Parker, Fig. 9 and Col. 8, lines 13-23 teach multiple optical fibers connected to a pre-selected color region are coupled to different pixels).

With respect to Claim 5, Sonehara in view of Parker teaches the tiled optical display according to Claim 1, discussed above. However, Sonehara in view of Parker fails to expressly teach wherein each light emitting diode 12, 14, 16 is positioned

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sufficiently close to the liquid crystal display modulator 20 so that the light beams 18 from each light emitting diode do not mix with the light beams 18 from any other light emitting diode on the pre-selected areas 24, 26, 28 of the liquid crystal display modulator 20 (emphasis added).

Examiner takes official notice that positioning an LED backlight sufficiently close to an LCD modulator to obtain properly focused beams of light is well known in the art (Examiner notes it may even be inherent when using a single backlight array with different colors). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to position the LEDs sufficiently close to the LCD so that light beams did not mix. Furthermore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that positioning the LEDs sufficiently close to the LCD would have yielded predictable results and resulted in an improved system. Examiner further notes this would maintain color purity of the individually colored LED backlights.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ouderkirk et al. (U.S. Pub. No.: 2005/0134527), Dubin et al. (U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0080302) and Nixon (U.S. Pat. No.: 5,293,437) teach optical fiber displays. Bruning et al. (U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0070914) teaches the use of RGB LED backlights. Lowry (U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0097967) teaches a tiled fiber optic display.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANTONIO XAVIER whose telephone number is 571-270-7688. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30am-12:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amare Mengistu can be reached on 571-272-7674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. X./
Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Amare Mengistu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629